

Message Text

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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

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INFORM CONSULS

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: PROTOCOL TO INCIDENTS AT SEA AGREEMENT

1. THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE U. S. AND U. S. S. R. ON MAY 22, 1973, SIGNED A PROTOCOL TO THEIR BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON THE PREVENTION OF INCIDENTS ON AND OVER THE HIGH SEAS. THE SIGNING OF THE PROTOCOL MARKED THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT HELD IN WASHINGTON DURING MAY 14-22, 1973. WHILE THE BASIC AGREEMENT WAS DESIGNED BY THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION TO ENSURE THE OPERATIONAL SAFETY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE MILITARY FORCES ON AND OVER THE HIGH SEAS, THE PROTOCOL EXTENDS CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY OF NON- MILITARY VESSELS OF EACH SIDE.

2. THE PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO FORCE ON THE DAY OF SIGNING AND IS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS:
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" THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,
HEREIN REFERRED TO AS THE PARTIES;

HAVING AGREED ON MEASURES DIRECTED TO IMPROVE THE
SAFETY OF NAVIGATION OF THE SHIPS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
ARMED FORCES ON THE HIGH SEAS AND FLIGHT OF THEIR MILITARY
AIRCRAFT OVER THE HIGH SEAS,

RECOGNIZING THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE AGREEMENT MAY
BE FURTHERED BY ADDITIONAL UNDERSTANDINGS, IN PARTICULAR
CONCERNING ACTIONS OF NAVAL SHIPS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT
WITH RESPECT TO THE NON- MILITARY SHIPS OF EACH PARTY,

FURTHER AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

THE PARTIES SHALL TAKE MEASURES TO NOTIFY THE
NON- MILITARY SHIPS OF EACH PARTY ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE
AGREEMENT DIRECTED AT SECURING MUTUAL SAFETY.

ARTICLE II

SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT OF THE PARTIES SHALL NOT MAKE
SIMULATED ATTACKS BY AIMING GUNS, MISSILE LAUNCHERS,
TORPEDO TUBES AND OTHER WEAPONS AT NON- MILITARY SHIPS OF
THE OTHER PARTY, NOR LAUNCH NOR DROP ANY OBJECTS NEAR
NON- MILITARY SHIPS OF THE OTHER PARTY IN SUCH A MANNER
AS TO BE HAZARDOUS TO THESE SHIPS OR TO CONSTITUTE A
HAZARD TO NAVIGATION.

ARTICLE III

THIS PROTOCOL WILL ENTER INTO FORCE ON THE DAY OF
ITS SIGNING AND WILL BE CONSIDERED AS AN INTEGRAL PART
OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF
SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ON THE PREVENTION OF INCIDENTS
ON AND OVER THE HIGH SEAS WHICH WAS SIGNED IN MOSCOW ON
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MAY 25, 1972." RUSH

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